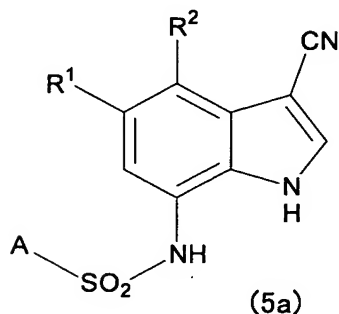


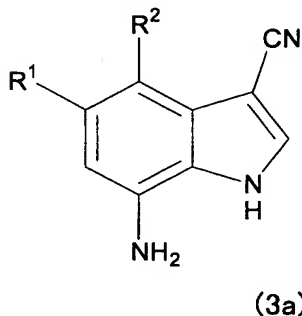
AP20 Rec'd PGT/PTO 09 MAR

CLAIMS

1. A process for preparing a compound (5a) represented by the following formula:

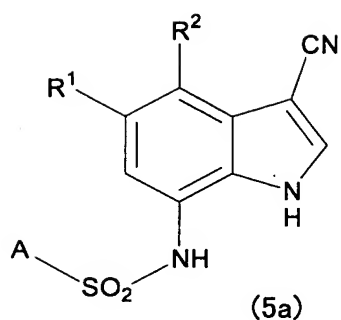


wherein R¹ and R² each independently represent hydrogen, C₁₋₄ alkyl or halogen, and A represents cyanophenyl, aminosulfonylphenyl, aminopyridyl, aminopyrimidyl, halogenopyridyl or cyanothiophenyl, characterized by reacting a compound (3a) represented by the following formula:

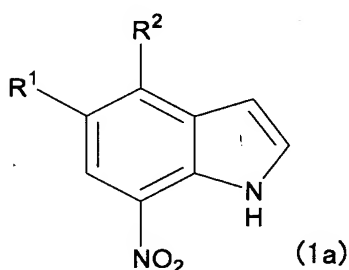


wherein R¹ and R² have the same definitions as above, with a compound represented by the formula A-SO₂Cl, wherein A has the same definition as above, in the presence of a base, in a mixed solvent of water and C₁₋₆ alkyl acetate.

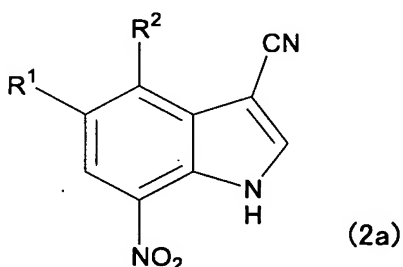
2. A process for preparing a compound (5a) represented by the following formula:



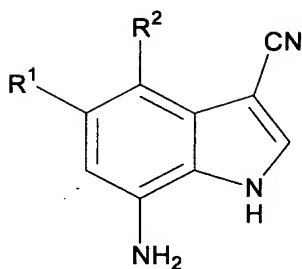
wherein R^1 and R^2 each independently represent hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl or halogen, and A represents cyanophenyl, aminosulfonylphenyl, aminopyridyl, aminopyrimidyl, halogenopyridyl or cyanothiophenyl, characterized by reacting a compound (1a) represented by the following formula:



wherein R^1 and R^2 have the same definitions as above, with a phosphorus oxyhalide or thionyl chloride in dimethylformamide, then adding hydroxylamine hydrochloride to the reaction mixture to allow reaction therewith to afford a compound (2a) represented by the following formula:



wherein R^1 and R^2 have the same definitions as above, and then subjecting the compound (2a) to reduction reaction to afford a compound (3a) represented by the following formula:



(3a)

wherein R^1 and R^2 have the same definitions as above,
and reacting the compound (3a) with a compound represented by the
formula $A-SO_2Cl$, wherein A has the same definition as above, in the
presence of a base, in a mixed solvent of water and C_{1-6} alkyl acetate.

3. A process according to claim 1 or 2, wherein R^2 is methyl, R^1
is hydrogen and A is 3-cyanophenyl.